

Women's volleyball season
gets underway
Stories on page 10-11



Simone Biles' bravery
Story on page 2



A crowd turned out for the
campus life fair
Photos on page 7

NECC Observer

Northern Essex
Community College

The award-winning student newspaper of Northern Essex Community College • Haverhill and Lawrence, Mass.

www.observer.necc.mass.edu [@theneccobserver](https://twitter.com/theneccobserver) facebook.com/neccobserver

Fall 2016 • Volume 81 • Issue Number 2 • Sept. 21, 2016

News Bytes

WELLNESS AND FITNESS CENTER PRESENTS BORROW A BIKE PROGRAM

Bicycles are now available to students to borrow for an hour or two to ride around campus or in the Kenoza trails

The bikes can be taken out from the Wellness and Fitness Center in room D133 in the Sports and Fitness Center. Students are asked to reserve bicycles 48 hours in advance. For more information or to reserve a bike, contact Rob Parker at rparker@necc.mass.edu or at 978-556-3823

ATTEND GROUP FITNESS WORKOUTS

Battle Rope Training classes will be offered on Mondays at 2PM as well as on Wednesdays at 5PM in room D133

Bootcamp classes will be offered 12PM in room D133

Cardio Boxing classes will be offered Tuesdays at 2PM in room D133

DISCOUNT TOPSFIELD TICKETS AVAILABLE

Discount Topsfield Fair tickets are available in the month of September.

See Maureen Saliba in D104 to purchase.

\$7.50 admission
\$5.50 food voucher
\$24 for 10 rides

College Life Fair a success



Photos by Jessica Laycock, Web Editor

Students gather in the Haverhill Campus quad for an afternoon of free food, student engagement activities and learning opportunities at the College Life and Campus Services Fair.

By CLEO BRIGHAM

Editor in Chief

*Incoming as well as
returning students
alike gather for
event*

The Haverhill Campus' first major student engagement event received a massive turnout of both incoming freshman and returning students at the College Life and Campus Services Fair on the Haverhill campus on Wednesday, September 14.

Students were given the opportunity to check out what the campus has to offer in terms of academic support as well as extracurricular activities.

Everyone was able to peruse the various tables representing

clubs as well as academic departments and programs.

Students were each given interactive raffle tickets to ensure complete participation in the all the event had to offer.

For each table a student visited, they were given a sticker. After collecting fifteen stickers after interacting with representatives from each table, they were entered into a raffle sponsored by Student Engagement.

In addition to different snacks provided at each table, a complimentary lunch was served as well as multiple flavors of shaved ice.

The Lawrence Campus will hold their corresponding College Life and Campus Services Fair on Wednesday, September 21 from 11 a.m. until 1 p.m. on the Dimitry Building patio.



Colorful decorations on display at the GSA table during the event.

What's Happening?

Haverhill Red Cross
Blood Drive
Monday, Sept. 26
9:20AM - 2:30PM
TC Center parking lot

Lawrence Campus
Life and Student
Engagement Fair
Wednesday, Sept. 21
Dimitry building patio
11am to 1pm

Student Life Open
House
Sept. 28
11 am to 1 pm

Ice cream social
Lawrence Campus
September 22, 2016
11:00 am to 1:00 pm
Dimitry Atrium
(Building L)
45 Franklin Street

Haverhill campus
September 23
September 23, 2016
11:00 am to 1:00 pm
Sports and Fitness
Center Lobby (Building
D)

GSA
Gender-Sexuality
Alliance
Every Friday
Noon to 1 p.m.
Room B105
Haverhill

Anime Club
Every Wednesday
2:30 -3:30 p.m.
Room 350, E building
Haverhill

Want to bring home the
bacon?
Rent a game from the
Bacon Board Gamers
\$2 for 2 weeks
Contact Mike Cross
mcross@necc.mass.edu
for details

Student Senate Meeting
Sept. 21
Start time: 3 pm.
End time: 5 p.m.
Haverhill Building A
Rm. 112 / Lawrence
Building L Rm. 244

Editorial

observer.necc.mass.edu @theneccobserver facebook.com/neccobserver

Olympic doping scandal takes turn

By CLEO BRIGHAM
Editor in Chief

Almost a month after four time women's gymnastics Olympic gold medalist, Simone Biles, stole the nation's hearts with her charismatic and compelling routines, a Russian espionage group managed to hack into the World Anti-Doping Agency's (WADA) Therapeutic Use Exemptions servers revealing that Biles had tested positive for Methylphenidate, more commonly known as Ritalin.

Directly after the leak, WADA released a statement explaining that although Ritalin is categorized as a banned substance, Biles' use is exempt due to the fact that she is diagnosed with Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD). The hacker group, also known as, "Fancy Bears," also leaked confidential information of other star Olympians such as Venus and Serena Williams.

After the leak, Biles personally responded to the information on her Twitter account stating, "I have ADHD and I have taken medication for it since I was a kid. Please know, I believe in clean sport, have

always followed the rules, and will continue to do so as fair play is critical to sport and is very important to me."

She went on to say in another tweet, "Having ADHD, and taking medicine for it is nothing to be ashamed of, nothing that I'm afraid to let people know."

Due to her candid approach when speaking on the scandal, Biles is being heralded by many, including myself as an important voice in the efforts to destigmatize mental health disorders.

Whether it's depression, anxiety, Obsessive Compulsive Disorder, eating disorders, learning disabilities, and more there's still a cultural taboo when it comes to mental health in the Western world.

Interestingly enough, many indigenous cultures that practice shamanism regard those with mental health disorders such as anxiety or depression as spiritual healers rather than outcasts.

The disconnect between how they celebrate these people while our society tends to shame them never ceases to fascinate me.

Mental health disorders are often associated with negative connotations and stereotypes.

Labels like, "disorder" and, "deficit" can typically cause people with these conditions to become ashamed of circumstances that are oftentimes out of their control.

This can often times cause them to refrain from seeking treatment or guidance when it comes to their disorder, only making matters worse. According to the American Psychological Association, women are less likely to be clinically diagnosed with attention deficit disorders than their male counterparts as the symptoms tend to manifest differently in each gender.

As a woman who has been recently diagnosed with Attention Deficit Disorder (ADD), I've found that after years of being told I wasn't trying hard enough, that I was simply lazy or needed to cultivate better time management skills, a furthering of public awareness that a lot of difficulties that I've experienced were involuntary has been an extremely liberating experience.

erating experience.

Biles' upfront approach to accepting her disorder as well as her public recognition that seeking help for such disorders is perfectly fine was extremely empowering for me, as well as many others across the globe who struggle with similar situations.

I think that so many people with mental health issues feel as though they're misunderstood and alone.

They either don't know how to get the proper help they need, or avoid doing so altogether based on the stigma associated with their problems.

It's so important to understand that there are unbiased, and confidential resources in our community as well as on campus to alleviate some of the stress accompanied by mental health disorders.

On Tuesday, Sept. 20, NECC Disability Services Specialist, Cheryl Wilson, will lead a workshop entitled, "ADHD: Get support before everything hits the fan!" at noon in SC214 on the Haverhill Campus with a follow

up workshop on Nov. 15.

A free event for National Depression Screening Day will also be held in the D Building on Oct. 5, with confidential screenings, educational presentations, and opportunities for students to ask questions.

NECC offers individual short term counseling as well as crisis counseling on both campuses.

The Counseling and Psychological Center, located in the Haverhill, Sports and Fitness Center also offers massage chairs and a MindBody lab with guided meditation and biofeedback tools to combat stress.

All in all, I want to stress the importance that NECC students should feel safe using the sources we have on campus that are here specifically to help them.

I know that sometimes it's difficult to talk about highly sensitive subjects such as mental health, however, taking that step out of our comfort zone can often ultimately alleviate some of the symptoms mental health problems can cause.

NECC Observer

The award-winning student newspaper
of Northern Essex Community College

Room 119, Opportunity Works building,
671 Kenoza St. Haverhill, MA 01830

Newsroom 978.556.3027
Adviser 978.556.3397

Advertising 978.556.3397
observer@necc.mass.edu

The NECC Observer reserves the right to edit,
condense and refuse all submissions.

Fall 2016 Observer Staff

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF : Cleo Brigham
COPY EDITOR : Alex Peterson
OPINION EDITOR : Joel Johnston
NEWS EDITOR : Now Hiring
FEATURES EDITOR : Travis Barrett
A&E EDITOR : Tracy Mukami
SPORTS EDITOR : Kyle Benson
CAMPUS LIFE EDITOR : Bailey Torri
WEB EDITOR : Jessica Laycock
STAFF WRITER : Now Hiring
STAFF WRITER : Rickey Gonzalez
CIRCULATION : Cleo Brigham
FACULTY ADVISER : Mary Jo Shafer

Have you taken Journalism I? Are you taking it now?
Would you like to be on the Observer staff? Then submit
your resume to observer@necc.mass.edu.

Publication Schedule

issue #	Publication Date	Ad/Copy Deadline
2	Sept. 19	Sept. 12
3	Oct. 3	Sept. 28
4	Oct. 17	Oct. 12
5	Oct. 31	Oct. 26
6	Nov. 14	Nov. 9
7	Nov. 28	Nov. 23

We welcome letters and articles from our readers. You can submit via email, and must include your name and phone number for verification. Write "Letter" or "Article to Editor" in the subject line so we notice it right away.

Send your letters to observer@necc.mass.edu

We try to publish all letters we receive, but we reserve the right to edit or reject those we receive.

The NECC Observer is a member of the Associated Collegiate Press,
College Media Advertisers Inc., the Columbia Scholastic Press
Association, and the New England Press Association.

Roaming Reporter

What is your opinion on the Opportunity Works Building?



It's an inconvenience but
I see the necessity.

DYLAN LAMONTAGNE
Liberal Arts



It's quite a walk.

AUSTIN PASEK
Liberal Arts



The travel is over-
blown.

AUDREY MARTIN
Radiology



It's nice, I just don't
like getting stared at.

COURTNEY SPERRA
Liberal Arts



Travel is a nuisance but
overall it's nice.

ERNEST EWUSI
Radiology



The building's great,
just no windows.

MADDY TOROSIAN
Liberal Arts

Opinion

observer.necc.mass.edu @theneccobserver facebook.com/neccobserver

Intramural intrigue

What is there to do at NECC?

By JOEL JOHNSTON
OPINION EDITOR

There are many advantages to going to NECC.

Students get a good education while saving money and networking towards their future. There are programs, internships, theatre and even police training right on the Haverhill campus.

However, having said that, what options are there for sports? Who plays and is it worth it? As you drive into the somewhat scenic (not really) Haverhill campus you may notice that there is indeed a baseball field.

The NECC baseball team is in the middle of starting their Fall Season while the softball team is as well.

The basketball tryouts start in October and cross country and volleyball teams are getting under way.

While some think that NECC doesn't even have sports, others have noticed a shortage in athletes and taken advantage. The softball team needs more players and depending on the year the basketball and volleyball usually have open spots to fill at tryouts.

However, what about activities for those who aren't so keen on committing so much of their academic schedule to serious collegiate athletics but still want to get in some activities? Whether you are trying to get fit or simply meet new people, you are in luck because of the NECC intramural program.

What are intramurals?

These are recreational events and activities offered to all students, even the faculty and staff. Whether you are interested in just hanging out and playing pool, entering an event or off campus outing with friends, NECC has the spot for you.

On Haverhill campus just behind the renovations on the Spurr Building is the Sports and Fitness Center.

Inside you will find food options, pool tables, a locker room, a small but re-organized gym for weight lifting with plenty of treadmills and a full basketball court that was just refinished over the Summer.

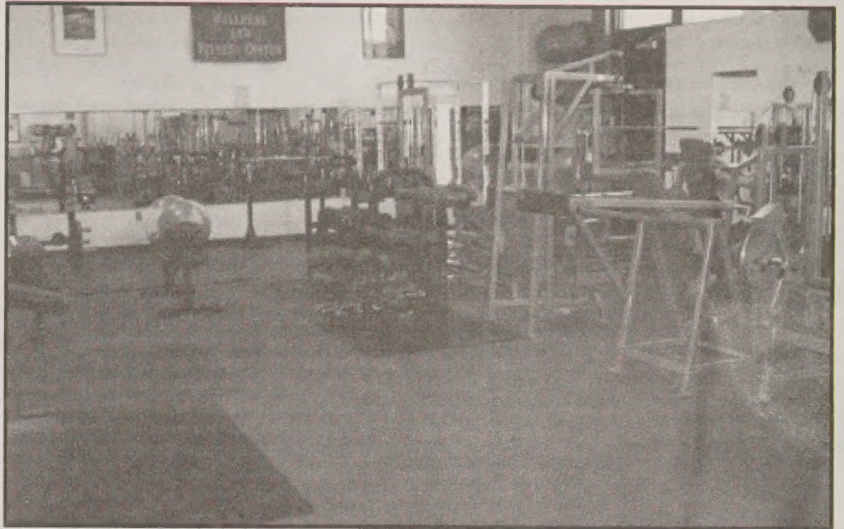
You can even borrow equipment and take it outside for use including footballs, baseballs, basketballs, soccer balls and a lot more.

The gym and campus game room is open between the times of 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. on Monday's through Fridays.

Maureen Saliba is the Assistant Coordinator of Athletics at NECC and says the intramural program at NECC is stronger than ever, "the participation does go up and down but there is always a good group and a lot of kids have started to organize themselves playing pick-up basketball and excetra. There is even a big group who plays touch football most days on the quad."

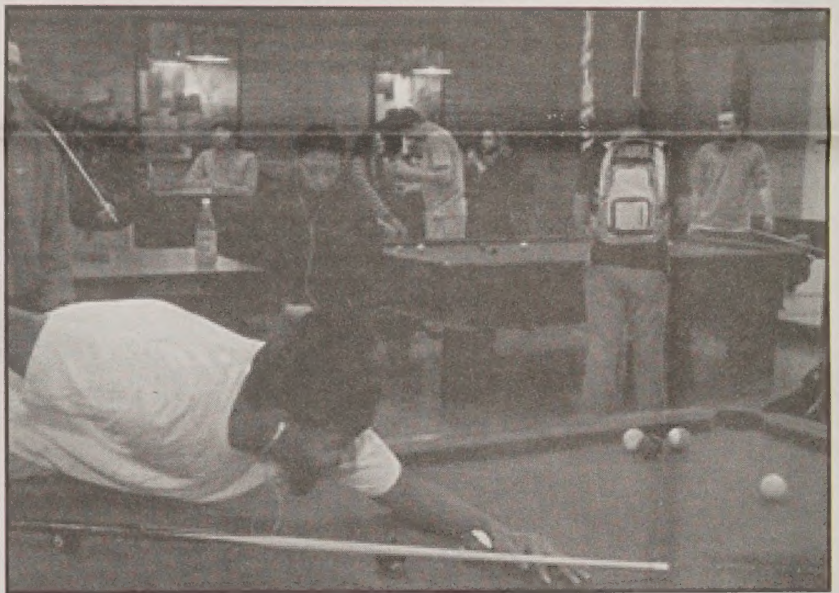
Intramural events starting in October include: a ping pong tournament, pool tournament, volleyball, darts, and a soccer day. With plenty of organized options and lots of people willing to start their own games, finding something to fit your needs is not difficult at NECC. When I asked what kinds of people would like the Sports and Fitness Center, Saliba elaborated, "It's a nice mix of people, there are some who are just here to socialize while others want to consistently play different things. Others just show up to do one thing or even do homework in the company of friends."

Honestly, when I first stepped foot on NECC campus I wasn't expecting much for sports. I was pleasantly surprised. They definitely have a lot to work on and more to add, but sports and intramurals aren't absent in Haverhill. If academics aren't enough and you are looking to have some fun in-between events and classes, hit up the Sports and Fitness Center for some good times and athletics.



Courtesy photo

The gymnasium and lifting equipment downstairs at the NECC Student Center on the Haverhill Campus



Courtesy photo

Students play pool at the Student Center on the NECC Haverhill campus

This paper is your voice, too!
We want to see what you have to say.

You can reach us at:

978-556-3027

observer@necc.mass.edu

News

observer.necc.mass.edu [@theneccobserver](https://twitter.com/theneccobserver) facebook.com/neccobserver

Deadline for Honors Program nears

CLEO BRIGHAM
Editor-in-chief

The deadline for the Commonwealth Honors Program project proposals is rapidly approaching.

As an honors participant, students will receive special recognition upon graduation as well as the honors designation on their transcript which will enhance transfer applications and opportunities for scholarships.

The Honors Program lets students explore interesting topics of their choice in

depth, with opportunities to present their work at the statewide Undergraduate Research Conference.

Honors students also have the privilege of accessing the Honors Student Lounge located in A214 with access to computers and printers in the room as well.

Eligible students must maintain a GPA of at least 3.3, and complete at least two honors courses with a B average or higher by the time

they graduate.

In addition, students must also complete the Honors Colloquium or Honors Humanities courses.

The Honors Colloquium is an interdisciplinary course with topics that vary each year. Finally, honors students must complete a Service Learning Activity and accompanying written reflection.

To submit a proposal for this semester, students must enter a 150 to 200 word

description of their project containing a thesis statement, list of objectives, a statement on how their project exceeds course requirements, means of research, specific sources and a tentative schedule of completion by Friday, September 30th.

Students are also required to attend the Honors Poster Session on November 29th from 2PM until 4PM in TC103A on the Haverhill campus.

Final papers must be submitted Honors Coordinator, Ginger Hurajt by 12PM on the final Friday of the Fall semester's final exams week.

Any students with questions concerning the Honors program or projects are welcome to contact Hurajt at ghurajt@necc.mass.edu.

Additional information can also be found on the Commonwealth Honors Program Facebook page.

We've moved!

The NECC Observer newsroom can now be found
in the Opportunity Works building, Room 119



This paper is your voice, too!
We want to see what you have to say.

... 000 ...

You can reach us at:

978-556-3027
observer@necc.mass.edu

News

observer.necc.mass.edu @theneccobserver facebook.com/neccobserver

All College Assembly allows for dialogue

BY CLEO BRIGHAM
Editor-in-chief

Gathering is NECC's participatory governance platform

The semester's first All College Assembly was held Monday, September 12 in TC103A on the Haverhill campus from 12PM until 1PM.

Those who wished to attend on the Lawrence campus were able to take part via Skype in LC301.

The All College Assembly is NECC's participatory governance platform of which all faculty and staff are a member, excluding the president of the college.

Discussions were lead by ACA chair, and Journalism Coordinator, Amy Callahan.

Attendees had the opportunity to ask questions as well as convey their personal opinions on topics such as the First Year Seminar proposal revision, the college's budget, campus security, food options on campus and civic engagement.

The college's new Vice President, Michael McCarthy had the chance to speak at his first ever ACA meeting.

McCarthy began his speech with the sentiment that he's looking forward to working with the staff within this new environment. While addressing

the attendants McCarthy stated, "I want to show that we're caring and committing and we want to provide the best service for all of the staff and for the students."

A common theme when it came to talking about the budget was the need to see a more detailed breakdown of funding.

In regards to this topic, McCarthy added "Although the numbers are daunting, I don't think it's impossible."

Staff members who are putting together a revision proposal for the First Year Seminar course plan to hold an advisory

vote in November.

They plan to roll out an information plan after coming division and department meetings on the subject with a summit dedicated to the topic on September 30th.

The faculty can expect can time frame of the proposal at division meetings in October, with more concrete information to come by the next All College Assembly on November 21st.

Klinbert Garcia, the student member of the Board of Trustees also had the chance to comment on NECC's app.

Garcia exemplified the need

to raise more awareness about the apps existence as well as getting feedback from marketing and IT about how students engage with it. Lastly, the assembly closed with information about the available vacancies on various faculty committees including positions on the executive, IT, student affairs, and finance committees.

Anyone interested in learning more about these positions can contact Callahan directly as she wants this kind of faculty engagement to be a, "vibrant and relevant," part of the staff participation on campus.

We're hiring!

Join the NECC Observer staff! Be part of a hard-working and dedicated team who produce our student newspaper. Gain valuable real-world experience and useful skills. Add to your resume. Learn how to write, edit and design. See your name, words and photos in print. Give voice to the campus community. Support the First Amendment. Participate in democracy. Get a first-hand look at the world of journalism. Inform your fellow students. Talk to people and tell stories.

Have you taken Journalism I? Are you taking it now? Would you like to be on the Observer staff?

Then submit a cover letter and writing sample to:

observer@necc.mass.edu

We currently have openings for an News Editor and Staff Writer

Also, we want to hear from you!

This paper is your voice, too!

We want to see what you have to say. We welcome letters to the editor, comics and cartoons, commentary and columns

... ooo ...

You can reach us at:

978-556-3027

observer@necc.mass.edu

Arts & Entertainment

observer.necc.mass.edu @theneccobserver facebook.com/neccobserver

Dance Club leaps into fall

Group held its first meeting on Sept. 19

By CLEO BRIGHAM
Editor-in-chief

Northern Essex's Dance Club began their first meeting of the semester on Monday, Sept. 19.

While the college offers an individual dance major, all students are encouraged to participate.

Dance Club gives students with varying experience levels the opportunity to learn a variety of dance styles.

They perform for audiences as well as at events on and off campus. This gives students the valuable performance experience, while

showcasing the skills they acquire during club meetings.

The group meets weekly on Mondays from noon until 1 p.m. in the Dance Studio within the Sports and Fitness Center.

Interested students should contact, Dance Coordinator, Michelle Deane at mdeane@necc.mass.edu or 978-556-3597.

In addition to the club, NECC offers a certificate in dance education and an associate degree in general studies: dance.



Courtesy NECC Newsroom

NECC dance student Nina Cabral of Pelham, N.H., is held by fellow dancers during a modern dance that was set to be performed during the Stillpoint Dancers' spring performance at Lawrence High School.

Congratulations to the cast of Top Notch Players Fall production: "Measure for Measure" by William Shakespeare

Mike Gulezian - Vincentio, the Duke

Patrick Poly - Angelo

Dierdrée Glassford - Escalus

Ben Joyall - Claudio

Hannah Heckman-McKenna - Lucio

Noah Greenstein - Elbow

Ben Beverage - Pompey

Leah Mahoney - Isabella

Natalie Scott - Mariana and Ensemble

Connie Bodemer - Juliet and Ensemble

Hunter Gouldthorpe - Ensemble

Aaron Lehner - Ensemble

Felix Carpio - Ensemble

The performances will be held at the Unitarian Universalist Church on 15 Kenoza Ave. in Haverhill due to the ongoing Spurr construction.

Performances are scheduled for Oct. 28 and 29 as well as Nov. 4 and 5.

For more information, contact Jim Murphy, Coordinator of Theater, by email at jmurphy.necc.mass.edu; by phone 978-556-3377.

NECC to host 'Elvis' show

NECC NEWSROOM

Elvis will be in the house when Las Vegas's "Justin Shandor & Memphis Bound: The Ultimate Elvis Concert" appears at Northern Essex Community College's signature event on Saturday, Oct. 1, at 7:30 p.m. at the Collins Center for the Performing Arts at Andover High School, 80 Shawsheen Road, Andover, Mass.

This event is open to the public. Tickets, which are \$50 per person, are now on sale.

Shandor, who has appeared on David Letterman's Late Night Show, has been impersonating Elvis since he was 16 years old. In August of 2010, he won the Ultimate Elvis Contest in Memphis, TN, securing an endorsement from Graceland. Immediately after winning the contest, Shandor and his manager, hired some of the best Elvis musicians in the country, added a horn section, backup gospel singers, and an extra guitar player to produce "The Ultimate Elvis Concert".

Years of concerts, touring, and countless hours of practice ensure that the vocals, drum beats, and dynamics are the spitting image of a 70's Elvis show. The event is hosted by the NECC Foundation, Inc, The Women of NECC, and the NECC Alumni Association. Proceeds support the NECC Foundation Endowment.

To order tickets contact Lori Smerdon in the Institutional Advancement Office at lsmerdon@necc.mass.edu or call 978-556-3789.

For additional information visit www.necc.mass.edu/signature-event

Campus Life

www.observer.necc.mass.edu [@theneccobserver](https://twitter.com/theneccobserver) facebook.com/neccobserver

College Life and Campus Service Fair

PHOTOS COURTESY OF: JESSICA LAYCOCK, WEB EDITOR



Prizes available at Student Engagement table.



Student Engagement Fair takes on the Quad.



Balloons from Gay Straight Alliance table.



Students had the opportunity to paint their own Frisbees.



Students enjoyed free lunch while learning about NECC's clubs and opportunities at the College Life and Campus Service on the Haverhill quad on Sept. 14. A college life fair on the Lawrence campus is scheduled to be Sept. 21.

Features

observer.necc.mass.edu [@theneccobserver](https://twitter.com/theneccobserver) facebook.com/neccobserver

Recent grad shows hard work pays off

*Nodine Webster
found her path at
NECC*

By TRAVIS BARRETT
Features Editor

Nodine Webster graduated in the spring of 2016 and walked with her classmates as she received her degree in movement science. No matter where she was, she always made sure

too many classes, she was doing it her own way. Just like the rest of us, we all have our own path and we just have to stick to it.

Softball was always on her path, and still is. With everything her best attribute is staying consistent. Since the age of six years old she has been playing softball. It all started playing wiffle ball in the backyard with her mom. She was “crushing balls” over

ters”, she went on to say that her edge comes from focusing on the moment and not letting go. She plans to try out for the Johnson & Wales softball team as a pitcher.

Her time at NECC was something she will never forget, it’s what has helped shape her into who she is today, but it also was a place for her to escape. “NECC allowed me to express myself in a way I couldn’t before,” she said.

Webster was able to find her passion working behind the desk at the school gym. She was able to get ahead athletically by working out with the trainers NECC provides. Rob Wormald and Joe Torres were always there (and still are) to share any tips for her.

Working at the desk is where she met Rob Parker, who is head of the movement science department. At first, she started as a nutrition major because of her allergic reaction to a protein in dairy and eggs. She wanted to bring knowledge and support to people who shared the allergy, but Webster admits to not having a “clear consistent path” set for herself. That’s when Parker “guided” her to the Movement Science program where she realized that she wanted to work with athletes so they can stay on the field. From there she really took off, the next two semesters would be her biggest achievement. She earned straight A’s two semesters in a row and couldn’t feel any prouder of herself.

Currently, Webster is planning on attending Johnson & Wales where she will continue her goal in achieving a bachelor’s degree in movement science.

For anyone looking for any tips, Webster says, “If you can’t balance everything, set a goal, and focus on where you want to be.” She concluded by saying, “Never be afraid to take chances.”



Photo by Nodine Webster

Nodine Webster receiving the award for female athlete of the year at the sports award ceremony in the Spring of 2016.

I knew what I wanted to do.
- Nodine Webster

NECC was her home. Whether working as a waitress, going to softball practice or traveling from Maine to get to class, she guided herself along with a little help from friends on campus. She was able to finish her NECC career off with a 3.6 GPA despite everything in her way.

“I knew what I wanted to do.” Webster made a plan that she was going to follow, but things aren’t always as easy as they sound. Setting mini-goals was a priority for her, that way nothing felt like it was overwhelming. “If I didn’t do it, I wouldn’t be where I am today.”

Back in the Fall of 2011, life was a little different. The pressure was setting in. Due to events out of her control, she was traveling from Maine to NECC. While also paying for school out of pocket, the traveling expenses were piling up. She was spending nearly \$650 a month. Expenses that ranged from gas, food, tuition and not to mention the tolls. However, she focused and always took out what was unneeded in her life. Whether it was expenses or

the house and that’s when her mom decided to start her in softball. Webster’s first throw was overhand and she’s “pretty sure it was a strike too.” For softball, the quintessential throw is underhand, but since her coaches threw that way, so did she. Webster remembers thinking around that time, “the only reason they throw that way was because they were old”, she said while laughing.

When asked what drew her to the sport, she says no one else in her family played a sport. She wanted to be the first one and was intrigued at the thought. Her expressive nature is very candid in this moment as she recalls her childhood as being the tomboy. “I was the only one who wanted to play in the dirt.”

Webster played as pitcher for two years as a Knight. She compares the pitcher’s mound to her own oasis, where it’s only her out there. Although the real battle doesn’t occur between her and the batter, it comes from within herself. “I’m competitive against my mind”, Webster said convincingly. “Nothing else mat-

If you can’t balance everything, set a goal and focus on where you want to be.
- Nodine Webster

This paper is your voice, too!
We want to see what you have to say.

You can reach us at:

978-556-3027
observer@necc.mass.edu

More

www.observer.necc.mass.edu [@theneccobserver](https://twitter.com/theneccobserver) facebook.com/neccobserver

Movie review: ‘Storks’ entertains

By RICKEY GONZALEZ
Correspondent

Warner Bros. Pictures’ latest film, *Storks*, takes the explanation of where babies come from and turns it into an animated family adventure.

Children will love the movie and the comedy will keep parents entertained as well.

I found myself laughing many times during the movie and even welling up during some of the touching moments.

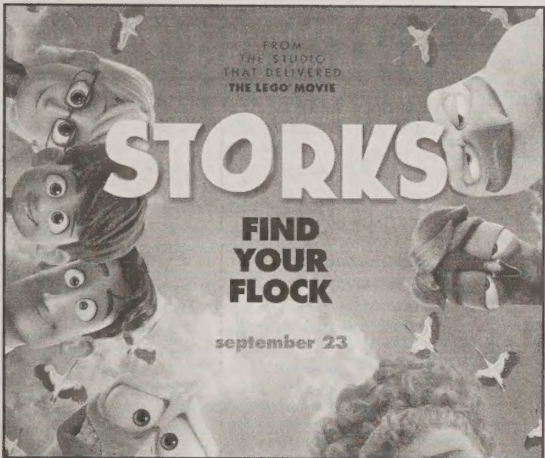
The film addresses different themes, from spending time with the family, to finding your place in the world and it succeeds in delivering those messages.

The premise of the film is pretty straightforward.

Junior, voiced by Andy Samberg, is all set to receive a huge promotion from the CEO of Stork Mountain (Kelsey Grammer), when he accidentally turns on the Baby Making Machine, which produces a single baby girl.

With the help of the orphan, Tulip (voiced by Katie Crown), Junior must get rid of the infant by delivering her to her new family before his promotion ends up in jeopardy.

As always in modern cinema, many antics occur throughout the



Courtesy photo

The animated film *Storks* has enough comedy in it to entertain parents and children.

The synopsis from studio is as follows - “Storks deliver babies... or at least they used to. Now they deliver packages for global internet giant Cornerstore.com. Junior, the company’s top delivery stork, is about to be promoted when he accidentally activates the baby making machine, producing an adorable but wholly unauthorized baby girl.

“Desperate to deliver this bundle of trouble, Junior and his friend Tulip, the only human on Stork Mountain, race to make their first-ever baby drop before the boss finds out” in a wild and revealing journey that could make more than one family whole and restore the storks’ true mission in the world.

Security Log



Haverhill Campus

• 9/8/2016 at 3 p.m.
Traffic accident in tech center parking lot. Vehicle backing out of space backed into vehicle driving by. No injuries reported.
• 9/9/2016 at 12:05 p.m.
Student fell in front of Fitness Center, sustained injury to her ankle. Ambulance was called and took her to Holy Family Hospital in Haverhill.
• 9/17/2016 10:55 a.m.
During Special Field Games at track area, a wheelchair

participant fell and sustained cuts to his face. Ambulance transported him to Holy Family Hospital in Haverhill.

Lawrence Campus

No information available

Where to find security:

Haverhill Campus
Technology Center, TC122
978.556.3689

Lawrence Campus
45 Franklin St. main lobby
978.738.7499

STUDENT SUCCESS CENTER

Fall 2016 Newsletter

Welcome back!

From all of us at the Student Success Center, we would like to extend our warmest welcome to our new and returning students! We hope that this academic year is full of learning, rewarding challenges and academic success!

It’s important to kick start your school year on the right foot. Here at the SSC, we have various resources to assist you in your academic journey. From success workshops to career exploration to community referrals, we are here to guide you towards academic success. We hope you will stop by our office!

Book reading with Sergio Troncoso

Wednesday 9/28 @ 12pm

Dimitri Building Atrium
45 Franklin Street Lawrence, MA



The son of Mexican immigrants, Troncoso was born and grew up on the east side of El Paso, Texas in rural Ysleta. Troncoso graduated magna cum laude from Harvard College, and studied international relations and philosophy at Yale University. Sergio Troncoso is the author of *The Last Tortilla and Other Stories*, *Crossing Borders*, *Personal Essays* and the novels *The Nature of Truth* and *From This Wicked Patch of Dust*.

Student Success Center

L-109
45 Franklin Street

Hours of Operation:

Monday-Friday
9am-5pm

(978) 738-7480

Sports

observer.necc.mass.edu @theneccobserver facebook.com/neccobserver

Women's volleyball is back at NECC

New head coach brings back the volleyball program

By KYLE BENSON

Sports Editor

After almost four years without a women's volleyball program, the team is finally back after finding a new head coach and many participants.

Merrimack College business graduate, Monica Reum, was hired as the new volleyball head coach this past spring. The 23-year old Reum has had prior involvements with Northern Essex Community College.

"During my graduate program at Merrimack College, I worked at Northern Essex Community College as an Academic Innovations Coordinator which was basically, the coolest job ever. I had an amazing supervisor, mentor, and friend guiding me throughout my studies. Here, I helped build a competency-based education program as an alternative pathway for students to take classes and study at their own pace due to life and time restrictions," Reum said. "I love that NECC caters to its students and their needs. When there was an opening to be the coach here, I couldn't help but apply and continue my relationship with the school."

Reum played volleyball at Lowell High School as a middle-hitter, and has continued to play the sport she loves in competitive leagues while in college and even after college.

"My dad played it all the time growing up and I wanted to be just like him. He was really the one who sparked my interest in the sport and I fell in love with it. From my freshman year of try outs, there was no going back," Reum said.

"I played basketball the first two years of high school but didn't feel the same chemistry as I had for volleyball."

One would think that Reum's favorite years of playing volleyball would be in her past, but that is just the opposite according to the new coach.

"My best years of volleyball, are surprisingly the most recent. I still play volleyball competitively and actively year-round. There are multiple leagues and tournaments I play in," Reum said. "This summer I even traveled to Pennsylvania for a weekend long, annual East Coast tournament. Further, I would consider these past couple of years my best years of volleyball because of the friendships that grew out of them. You build a network in the volleyball community and I've met some of my life time friends

through this sport."

When Athletic Director, Sue MacAvoy hired Reum in the spring, Reum got right to work to insure the new season would start off on the right foot. To do so, she had to make sure that there would be enough players to fill out the roster. She began the recruiting process in March talking to local clubs and high schools, then she hosted a meet and greet for prospective student-athletes.

Reum also has a Master's degree in Education. She says the degree ties in with her decision to coach.

"I love teaching, learning, and growing -- it's my nature. Students and athletes have so much potential and I think I have it in my character to push beyond limits they ever thought they could reach. It's such a rewarding feeling."

The volleyball season has just begun and the new head coach hopes it will be a good one.

"With any new program, I don't want to set my expectations too high but I know what my girls have to bring to the table. We have fought hard in every game we've played and they want it," Reum said.

"Desire is a powerful thing. With perseverance and fun, I hope we make it to regionals this year."



Photo by NECC Newsroom

New head coach, Monica Reum, is ready to take on the challenge or resurrecting the old volleyball program.



2016 women's volleyball team photo.

Photo by NECC Athletics

Sports

www.observer.necc.mass.edu [@theneccobserver](https://twitter.com/theneccobserver) facebook.com/neccobserver

Knights season begins with a few losses

Knights attend first weekend tournament of the season

By KYLE BENSON
Sports Editor

The returning women's volleyball team's season has begun. They opened the season on September 14th in Boston against Bunker Hill Community College. The team lost their opening game 3-2.

The first set of the game, the Knights gained the edge and scored 25 points compared to

Bunker Hill's 12. The second set did not go as well as the Knights, as they lost the set 25-17. NECC came back during the third set and won by an inch, 28-26. Northern Essex was up 2-1 at this point in the game.

The games are best of 5 sets and the Knights lost the last two, 25-16 and 15-8 respectively. Madison Kacherian was NECC's leading scorer with 10 points in the game. It was an impressive first matchup as the team only lost by one set.

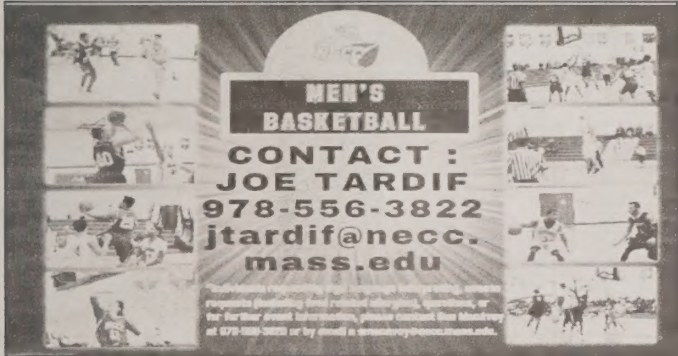
September 17th kicked off the CCRI volleyball tournament that the Knights were invited to. One

day later on the 18th, the Knights were swept in their two games against Hartford Community College and Fashion Institute of Technology. The team lost both of the games, 3-0.

NECC's next women's volleyball game is on October 1st when the Knights travel to NHTI for a double header, the first game against NHTI at 1:30 pm and the second against Unity College at 3:00 pm. The program's first home game in four years is on October 5th against NHTI at 6:30 pm.

Women's Volleyball Roster

Number	Name	Position	Hometown
1	Nathalie Lopez	MH	Methuen, MA
2	Katherine Quevedo	S	Lawrence, MA
3	Kiana Morano	OH	North Andover, MA
5	Brittany Birolini	L	Dracut, MA
6	Jennifer Sien	OH	Lowell, MA
8	Leiza Cabrera	MH	Lawrence, MA
9	Kaitlyn Gould	OH	Bradford, MA
10	Madison Kacherian	MH	Rowley, MA
11	Dulcelina Aquino	OH	Lawrence, MA
Head Coach - Monica Reum			
Asst. Coach - Tiffany Gadd			



MEN'S BASKETBALL

CONTACT :
JOE TARDIF
978-556-3822
jtardif@necc.mass.edu



Doing serves at practice.

Photo by Kyle Benson



Players line up during practice.

Photo by Kyle Benson



Quinnipiac university

Hamden, Connecticut
Arts and Sciences
Business / Communications
Education / Engineering
Health Sciences / Law
Medicine / Nursing

Experience a program that gives your passion a platform.

Quinnipiac's world-sized classrooms blend rigorous academics and practical experiences to give your future a focus, preparing you for a promising future in the real world. Attentive faculty create personalized, empowering opportunities for growth, through professional connections and a long record of success.

Join us at an Open House:
Saturdays 9/24, 10/22, 11/12, 12/3

Explore your potential at qu.edu

Just for Fun

 observer.necc.mass.edu  [@theneccobserver](https://twitter.com/theneccobserver)  facebook.com/neccobserver

NECC Programs of Study

E Y G Y C Y C G V H S N T L R L Q Q E L S Y O J L
G C Z M K L J F Z B Z J X G A P B G B B H L O Z I
N M N Z H Z B R C D H O F B B Q J P I P V U N N C
I C Y E E E C N E I C S R E T U P M O C R R F F M
T F L O I H O S P I T A L I T Y S S O N L O F D U
I P M Z P C E D N H T D J J I B O I A V R R A R S
R I B S G M S O M O I E R J K L Y L N M R R U E I
W W N C H N I L R R P M X D I C I P A E Y T T N C
C J R M L T I Y A Y L A A H E S F T Q I S S O G L
A H M G A C S T S C J B P N M A I M K F N S M I Y
I Q N C O C E L N B I Y G E A O F D P O A T O N G
H Y U H I R C Y T U C S G N N G Z S I Z P E T E O
H D J E T Q I Y P W O E Y T I L E T T V N A I E L
E N N A I P T G B E W C D H B S A M S U T C V R O
A C E Q R B S O Q G M U C C P C R G E H D H E I I
E H J M M Y U L P Y C U Z A I K H U E N T I P N D
T K C G R P J O O S C I S N E R O F N L T N E G A
W E H Z L B L N E F H X U Y G O L O I B A G P S R
D G L I A I A H W Z M M P A R A M E D I C R M B A
B E P O T B N C S Y M Y G O L O M A H T P O A R O
Z H N I G W I E V O V V P G X Q L G P X X K T P U
N O C T Y S M T C M X S P N X N V C N S D Q W C C
X S X U A Y I U H U O E Q M T G T I V L D Z F F I
D Z P L I L R H L A R H N R B X N O F Q C P U X J
R C M K O T C H I S T O R Y P S Y C H O L O G Y C

- | | | |
|-----------------|-----------------|------------------|
| ACCOUNTING | ART | AUTOMOTIVE |
| BIOLOGY | BUSINESS | COMMUNICATIONS |
| COMPUTERSCIENCE | CRIMINALJUSTICE | DEAFSTUDIES |
| DENTAL | EDUCATION | ENGINEERING |
| FORENSICS | HISTORY | HOSPITALITY |
| INFORMATION | JOURNALISM | LABRATORYSCIENCE |
| MANAGEMENT | MUSIC | NURSING |
| OPHTHAMOLOGY | PARALEGAL | PARAMEDIC |
| PHILOSOPHY | PHYSICALSCIENCE | POLITICS |
| PSYCHOLOGY | RADIOLOGY | TEACHING |